

## THREATS

IN LETTERS SENT TO  
MINERVA MENMoney Demanded Under  
Penalty of DeathOfficer Riffle is Sent to  
Investigate and Believes  
He Has a Clue—Copy  
of a Letter Received by  
Banker Harry Couch.

The village of Minerva is stirred from top to bottom on account of the mysterious letters of a threatening nature that have been received by prominent residents of Minerva and vicinity. The letters all demand that money be left at places stated definitely in the letter or the recipients of the letters would never leave the place alive. The residents are worked up to a high tension pitch and if the parties who have been sending them are apprehended harm will be done them, it is feared.

The latest threatening letter was received by Harry Couch, one of the most highly respected residents of the place. Mr. Couch is interested in the local bank at Minerva and last Friday he received a letter addressed to him in pencil with no punctuation and having all the marks of being sent by a very ignorant person. The letter was printed in a scrawling hand and was the height of illiteracy. It demanded that Mr. Couch place \$500 in bills under the sidewalk on the main street, near his home. It threatened numerous times to sacrifice his life if he would not comply with the instructions contained in the letter. Mr. Couch had never received any letters of the kind before and it caused him some worry as it also did his family. He knew of no enemy and the motive in the threat seemed to be to obtain money.

Mr. Couch communicated with Chief Smith of this city and the chief detailed Officer Pat Riffle on the case. Officer Riffle went to Minerva Friday afternoon and unseen went to the bank where he met Mr. Couch. Under the direction of the officer that gentleman made up a bundle of papers, placed it in a box exactly according to instructions and deposited it at the place ordered in the letter at 9:30 o'clock that night. Officer Riffle stationed himself in a building nearby, hoping that the man who had sent the letter would appear and get the money. But he waited all night and it appears that the nerve of the would be blackhand failed him and the place was not visited by anyone that night.

Mr. Couch is at a loss to know why he was singled out as the object of the threatening letter as he told the officers that he had no suspicious whatever and no enemies that he was aware of. He was very much agitated over the matter and will try to discover the guilty parties.

Before leaving Minerva Officer Riffle followed a clue that he thought led in the right direction but he did not have sufficient time to follow it to the end. But should anything happen to Mr. Couch he stated that he would immediately make some arrests as he is almost certain that he knows who the senders of the letter are.

Not long ago a Mr. Reed, one of the wealthiest farmers of that community, received a letter telling him that on the penalty of his life he should place \$10,000 under a certain stump. He did not comply with the order, however. Following is a copy of the letter received by Mr. Couch:

April 3, '08.

Harry Couch  
You put five hundred dollars under that crossing that goes down main street rite at the side to ward your house. You put it there or you never will leave Minerva a live you put it there on Friday night or you will be

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Who  
has the  
White  
Lumber  
Wagons?

bried Sunday don't tell this to any one. I will watch you every minute and I will have you covered with a gun you dare tell or watch for me and you will never know what killed you if you don't put that five hundred dollars at that crossing you will never leave Minerva alive you put this there and I will never bother you again now mind this is no joke it is bisness you put all paper money now put this money in a box and slip it under the side where the brick leans up agens, the crossing there is a hole under the big stone now if this money is not there or you try to catch me you will die saturday die saturday don't try to ketch me or I will kill you eny way put the money there or  
DIE

HARTVILLE RESIDENCE  
DESTROYED BY FIRE

Flames completely destroyed the residence of George Fasnaght two miles southeast of Hartville, Saturday afternoon. The loss was complete as only a very few of the furnishings on the first floor were saved. Mr. Fasnaght was away from the house at the time the fire broke out and it had gained considerable headway before any one noticed it. When discovered it was too late to do anything to check the flames. There was no insurance.

## TRAMP

Who is Known Country  
Over as "A No. 1" Will  
Quit the Road

## TO WRITE OF HIS LIFE

Middletown, N. Y., April 5.—"A No. 1," the most famous tramp in the world, has cleared up the mystery of his identity and is going to write a book of his adventures. Since 1883, when he started tramping, this curious fellow has been known everywhere as "A No. 1," and this title is on freight and stations in every town from New York to San Francisco.

He has traveled more than 300,000 miles at a cost of \$7.55, riding on top and underneath freight and passenger cars. He does not beg, but gets a living by carving artistic images from Irish potatoes. He speaks English, German, French and Spanish. He does not drink, smoke, gamble nor steal. He wears a badge presented by Richard K. Fox a number of years ago for completing a trip from New York to San Francisco in eleven days and six hours without paying railroad fare. For this he received \$1000. "A No. 1" announces that his name is Ray Livingston and his home at Cambridge Springs, Pa., and that he has given up tramping to take up literary pursuits.

CANTON  
BANKS IN  
MERGER

Financial circles in the city were stirred yesterday and Saturday night by the story that two banking houses of the city had practically agreed on a consolidation. The officials connected with the institutions refused to make any statements confirming or denying the rumors and it is understood that nothing will be given out for publicity until the matter is brought to the attention of and acted on by the stockholders of the institutions.

U. S. Capitalists Buy Mexican Ranch.  
Mexico City, April 5.—W. H. Britton of Birmingham, Ala., and associates have purchased the Rodriguez ranch of 471,000 acres situated in the state of Durango. Included in the deal are 35,000 head of goats and 5000 head of cattle. The consideration is given at \$1,200,000.

To Sell a Court House.  
Akron, April 5.—The county commissioners have decided to accept the bid of Charles Mitchell for the sale of the old court house. Mitchell will pay \$285 for the building. He will be required to give a bond to indemnify the county against any accident to the new building in removing the old.

Brewery Bonds Advancing.  
Cleveland, April 5.—Brewery bonds in the local market continued in active demand and gained strength. The Dayton bonds sold at 44% and 44%. Kansas City gained a point over the last previous sale, selling at 55, and the Hoster-Columbus at 44%, up from 43% at the last sale.

Enjoy Life.  
Attend Entro Nous minstrels tonight at Bast's hall.

Kennore—First officials of village will be sworn in Monday.

## PUZZLING

QUESTION FOR ELEC-  
TIONS BOARDSame Old Difficulty Will  
Confront itWelty Delegates With-  
drawn and Independ-  
ent Ones Substituted.  
Sec. Weiss Refuses to  
Give Out List of Names.

The board of elections will have a puzzling question to decide when the list of Democratic candidates is certified to them by the officials of the county central committee. It is expected that this list will be ready to present to the board some time Tuesday. The question will be the old one of whether or not the delegates to the state convention shall be selected by districts or by a majority vote of the entire county. In other words shall the voters of a Massillon ward have a voice in who shall represent a Canton ward at the convention.

It is useless to attempt to figure out what the board will do. The Pomerene group plan may be adopted and again the district plan may be the one chosen by the board. It was said yesterday, too, that the board might arrange for both styles of election and leave the matter of which delegation should be seated to the credentials committee at the state convention.

The books for the listing of candidates closed Saturday morning and a few minutes before 10 o'clock Judge Albaugh, on behalf of John C. Welty, filed a list of independent candidates and withdrew the Welty candidates for state delegates. Mr. Welty's name was also withdrawn from the ticket. Later in the day Mr. Welty refused to make any statement except to say that he was not out of the race for the nomination by any means. The withdrawal of his delegate list and his name by Mr. Welty is said to have occasioned considerable surprise in the Pomerene camp and some of the workers seemed slightly puzzled by the move.

One of the parties closely identified with the independent delegates said:

"In the counties where Johnson controls there has been no endorsement for governor. It is evident that he does not consider any delegation that he controls tied up by instructions and it appears strange that in Stark county alone he wishes to have instructed delegates. It is the sincere desire that the nominee for governor be from Stark county and I believe the majority are willing that in the event Johnson controls the convention that the votes of this county be cast for Mr. Pomerene, and if Johnson does not control that they be cast for Welty."

Secretary Weiss Saturday morning after the closing of the books refused to allow a News reporter to make a copy of the list of candidates saying that he would not make the names public until he was sure that everything was right. He stated that he wanted to look through his correspondence and check up all the names before any publicity was given them. Last night he said that he expected to get in communication with Chairman Diehl today and go over the list with him and that he believed that the list would be ready for certification and publication some time this evening.

After the books closed Saturday morning members of the elections board examined them but other parties interested were denied any copies of lists of candidates.

MINERS BURIED  
BY AVALANCHE  
OF MOIST CLAY

Freeland, Pa., April 5.—Rescuing parties are at work trying to reach John Tokost and John Waschuck, miners, who were entombed in the Highland mine yesterday. The accident is singular in the fact that the gangway is choked with mountain clay washed down through the breast in which the men worked.

Opinion is divided as to the possibility of the men being still alive. There have been no rattlings heard, but this is accounted for by the fact that the sound could not travel through the soggy earth filling the opening. Mining experts from other districts are expected to arrive here tomorrow to assist in the rescue work.

Akron—E. P. Werner, vice president of Werner Co., arrested for assault and battery.

Entro Nous minstrels, Bast's hall tonight. Admission 25c.

REPUBLICAN  
ROOTERS RIOT  
ON STREET CAR

Indianapolis, April 5.—The midnight special on the Indianapolis and Cincinnati Traction line was the scene of a riot last night after the car left Rushville. Nearly 200 men and women, who had attended the reception to James E. Watson, Republican nominee for governor, were on the car, when an altercation took place between train employees and a passenger about carrying a trunk. Traffic Manager Henry and Train Dispatcher Lively came to the assistance of the trainmen and found them pitted against about fifty passengers, many of whom had been drinking. A fight followed and every window was broken from the car. In the melee a school teacher drew a revolver and fired at City Marshal Price but the bullet went wild.

## FAMILY COUNCIL

May Be Held to Decide Question of  
Duke of the Abruzzi Marriage.

Rome, April 5.—The Duke of the Abruzzi arrived here at noon today, and is the guest of the king at the Quirinal palace. The duke visited ex-Queen Margherita, and spent most of the afternoon in her company.

The prevailing impression is that the duke's visit to Rome is connected with his proposed marriage with Miss Katherine Elkins. There is some speculation as to why he did not come to Rome as soon as he returned to Italy from the United States. Most significance is attached to the fact that the Count of Turin, another cousin of the king, is also a guest of his majesty. There is a likelihood that the Duke of Aosta and the Duke of Genoa will come to Rome. If they do all the male members of the house of Savoy will be re-united.

The obvious deduction is that a family council is to be held to discuss the proposed marriage of the Duke of the Abruzzi and Miss Elkins previous to the granting of the royal sanction, but no definite information will be published before the question of marriage is definitely settled.

## MISS ETHEL

May be Made an Hon-  
orary Member of  
B. of L. E.

## ENGINEER STILL'S PLAN

Atlanta, Ga., April 5.—Ethel Roosevelt, who yesterday handled the throttle of one of the moguls, for two hours and at times sent the engine along at 70 miles an hour, is to be elected an honorary member of the local lodge of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, if Engineer Still can accomplish it. Still who gave up his engine to the white house girl is enthusiastic over his exploit and is determined to make her an honorary member of his brotherhood. He took up the matter with his brother engineers today and found them enthusiastic also.

"I think we will elect Miss Ethel at the next meeting," said Still. "She deserved it for the way she handled the engine. She is as brave as they are made and her nerves seem to be made of steel. If she is not a chip of the old block I'm a Dutchman. Afraid? Why she wasn't any more afraid than I was, and I've been on the road a good many years now. Why, she even had the locomotive slang all right," said Still.

"Soon after she took the throttle, I said 'let her rip' and 'let her rip it is,' was her response, and notch by notch the throttle grew wider till the cab began to rock and away like a small boat on a choppy sea. We are making more than 60, I said to her and the girl laughed and said to me, 'that is going some, but not fast enough for me,' and she actually pulled the throttle a bit wider and she was as cool as you please all the time. She even managed to ask while we were racing along how many children I had, she is a chip off the old block, all right."

Roosevelt Family in Washington Again  
Washington, April 5.—Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Ethel, Miss Langdon, Miss Isabel Hagner, Captain Fitzhugh Lee and Kermit, Archie and Quentia Roosevelt arrived in Washington today from Atlanta, completing the land and water trip which included steaming down the Mississippi from Vicksburg to New Orleans in the United States yacht Mayflower.

Akron—John A. Davis, 80, resident here for 57 years, dead of old age.

Marshallville—Anthony Schofen, 65, killed by C. A. & C. train.

Realism at the Entro Nous minstrels tonight. Bast's hall. Admission 25c.

FOR WALL PAPER CLEANING  
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## HOT TIME

EXPECTED IN HOUSE  
THIS WEEKDalzell and Williams Are  
Both AngryDalzell is Accused of  
Bad Faith by Williams.  
Democrats Are Pre-  
paring to Put up a  
Vigorous Fight.

Washington, April 5.—Partisan spirit is running higher in the house of representatives at this time than in any session of congress for many years.

When the Democrats early last week started the filibuster with the announced purpose of forcing the Republicans to enact legislation recommended by President Roosevelt no feeling of hostility between the leaders on the respective sides was manifested. Conditions have changed within the past few days. The Republican leaders are now in a very ugly frame of mind. The Democrats on the other hand have become very much incensed over the drastic rules brought in to expedite business and they announce their intention to run riot for the rest of the session.

While the conflict at the beginning was inaugurated by the Democrats for party advantage, it has now reached a stage where Democratic and Republican leaders are making charges of bad faith against each other. Bitter verbal clashes between John Sharp Williams, the minority leader, and John Dalzell, who is leading the fight on the floor for the Republicans, are expected this week. Mr. Williams is fighting mad. Mr. Dalzell is mad also. Mr. Williams is calm and composed in debate under ordinary circumstances, but in extraordinary circumstances, like the present, he is likely to lose his temper. Mr. Dalzell can be a bitter partisan, who never seeks to avoid trouble.

Mr. Williams and Mr. Dalzell are members of the committee on rules, the all powerful body in the house of representatives. Mr. Williams claims that his Republican colleagues on the rules committee played a trick on the Democrats last week. With Representative Sherman, of New York, too ill to attend committee meetings, it was possible for Mr. Williams to break a quorum in the committee, but by some means or other the minority leader, so he says, was inveigled into attending a session of the rules' committee a day or so ago. Thereupon a rule was reported applying the gag, thus rendering the filibuster less effective than it had been early in the week. Mr. Williams' ire arose against Mr. Dalzell and he intends to even up this week if possible.

Partially exhausted from their strenuous work of the past week the Republicans and the Democratic leaders rested up today in expectation of a resumption of activities tomorrow. Tonight councils of war were held in the respective camps. One of the bills recommended for passage in recent messages of President Roosevelt will be brought into the house tomorrow. It is the measure providing for the enactment of an employers' liability bill. The indications are that it will be passed without much trouble, but it will afford an opportunity for the Democrats to create a little excitement. The bill was ordered reported by the house committee on judiciary last Friday. Opposition to it—if there is opposition—will come from the Republican side of the house. Representative Littlefield is opposed to the measure on constitutional grounds and he will file a minority report setting forth his views on the subject. If permitted to get the floor he will oppose the passage of the bill.

The party whips sent out notices today urging members to be in their seats tomorrow. Members out of town have been asked to return to Washington post haste. In the notice sent to the Democrats they are directed to vote "aye" on the employers' liability bill. "If this measure does not pass," the notice reads, "we want to place the responsibility for its failure on the majority."

It is pointed out also that the Democrats should be in attendance in order that a quorum shall be maintained at all times during the remainder of the session.

WHEELING SCHEDULE  
IN EFFECT YESTERDAY

The new train schedule on the Wheeling went into effect yesterday and all trains were on time. Special orders have been issued and an unusual effort will be made by the officials of the road to have the trains on time and to adhere strictly to the schedule. The new 4 o'clock train to the north was well patronized yesterday and is expected to be a popular innovation in the service.

SWITCH ENGINE  
ON RAMPAGE AND  
SEVERAL ARE HURT

Stamford, Conn., April 5.—Switch engine No. 2543 of the New Haven railroad went on the rampage in the round house here this forenoon, while standing with steam up and a couple of machinists tinkering with the sand pipe and air apparatus. As it suddenly began to move back towards an open turntable one of the machinists jumped into the cab and reversed the engine in time to prevent it going into the turntable. Instead it sped forward towards the two feet brick wall of the round house.

The machinist was unable to stop the engine, there being no air in the tank and it crashed into the brick wall and tore right through it, out on the sidewalk. A hole 15 feet high by 9 feet wide was made in the solid masonry. The cowcatcher and headlight of the engine were torn off.

The round house was filled with escaping steam and one or two of the round house employees were scalded. A faulty throttle started the engine in the first place.

ORDERS FOR RAILROAD  
CARS PICKING UP

Pittsburg, April 5.—The largest order for railroad cars since last October was placed during the week, the total orders aggregating 4000 cars. Of these 2500 will be built by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, at their own shops. The Lehigh & New England railroad has ordered from the Cambria Steel company 250 all steel gondola cars and 200 steel underframe cars from the American Car & Foundry company. A number of small orders were also booked, making a total of 4500 for the week. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul has placed with local firms orders for 10,000 tons of car axles and iron to be used in the cars they are building.

## EARNEST

Is Effort to Get Candidate  
of Strength Against  
Bryan

## GRAY PUBLICITY BUREAU

Washington, April 5.—It became apparent here today that the movement in the Democratic party to nominate a candidate for president other than W. J. Bryan, is not to be a mere flash in the pan, but it taking form and substance. A literary bureau to give publicity to the effort to obtain the nomination for Judge George Gray of Delaware will be opened in Washington tomorrow. The Minnesota Democratic committee has established headquarters in Chicago and is out in a broadside, giving publicity in Washington for Governor John A. Johnson. Advocates of the nomination of former Governor Wm. L. Douglas of Massachusetts are becoming exceedingly active and it is apparent that the effort in his behalf is well organized in its publicity branch.

Under the direction of F. B. Linop, its treasurer, the Minnesota Democratic committee has begun an earnest and active campaign to bring about Governor Johnson's nomination. From the Chicago headquarters of which Mr. Linop is in charge a circular letter is being sent out this week to thousands of prominent Democrats and with a pair pamphlets containing Governor Johnson's record and reasons why he should be the choice of the party. Advance copies of the letter and pamphlet were received today by special delivery. It is apparent that the Minnesota Democrats are in a fair chance of carrying their campaign to a victory.

The Gray bureau in Washington will be in charge of Richard J. Reunis of Philadelphia, a newspaper man.

## The Arcade

## BAR AND CAFE

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Noon Dinner from 11:30 to 2.  
Evening Dinner 5:30 to 7:30.